



Principal's Corner

Sounds of students entering the building on the morning of January 4th was an AMAZING way to kick off the new year! Thank you to all of our staff, students, and families for the hard work and efforts put in motion to ensure the school continues to be a safe learning environment for all. It is our hope that with these efforts in place, we will be able to remain open for in-person learning for the remainder of the school year. Fingers crossed!

Many have said that 2020 was the “worst year ever.” It certainly did have its challenges, though if you look closely, I think you’ll find there were many blessings in there as well. Sometimes we must change our mindset and train ourselves to find or focus on those blessings. What lies ahead in 2021? Whatever it is, I hope you find good health, love, happiness, and lots of laughter. 😊

“New Year—a new chapter, new verse, or just the same old story? Ultimately, we write it. The choice is ours.”

-Alex Morrith

Wishing you all the best!

Mrs. Mathieu



Calendar of Events

February 1st
4:15- School Board Meeting

February 3rd
12:00 Early Release
Student of the Month

February 19th
Quarter 3 Progress Reports

February 22-26
Winter Break



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Pictures, updates, events, and more!

~Students of the Month~

Aubrey Brochu, Jakob Boucher,
Connor McKay, Isabella Gray,
Zoe Flagg, Barbara Thibodeau,
Janessa Hodge



Way to go!

News from Pre-K & Kindergarten

January has been a very busy month in the PreK and Kindergarten classroom. We have been learning about Arctic Animals and how they survive in cold places. In Math, we've been working on listening to stories about joining groups, using our counters to act out the stories, then write the matching addition number sentences. In Language Arts, we've been learning how to read and write lowercase letters, and putting it all together by reading Kindergarten level books about Arctic Animals. Next week, we will start learning about the Polar Opposites--animals that live in Antarctica.

Mrs. Hemon

News from 1st Grade

January has been an exciting month. First graders were excited to be back in the classroom and to be welcoming back Ms. Scott into our classroom. Ms. Scott will be completing her semester-long internship (student teaching) in our classroom. We are enjoying having her as part of our classroom community.

In LA, we have been reading many books by Eric Carle. We have learned that he loved to write about insects and nature! This has tied in well with our science unit on animals. First graders have been learning about the various animal groups and their characteristics.

In Math, we have been learning about numbers to 100. First graders have learned about tens and ones and the value of each. Students have learned how to use base ten blocks to show different ways to make numbers. They soon will be learning how to compare numbers to 100.

Although Valentine's Day celebrations are different this year, we will be doing a craft and fun activity on February 12. We look forward to having a COVID-friendly afternoon.

Mrs. Ricker



News from 2nd & 3rd Grade

January studies have included lots of learning about ancient Egypt. It has been great fun to dive into some rich content using a Magic Tree House adventure and its accompanying Fact Tracker, a nonfiction companion book. Students have each made his or her own cartouche, which, though written on paper rather than carved into stone, will identify them to anyone who can read hieroglyphics. We have also learned some fascinating facts as well as some gory ones. I wonder if there have been any dinner table conversations about the mummification process?

In math students in second grade are working on addition with regrouping, while third graders are doing well with their multiplication. Science has been focusing on Animals Through Time. We recently played a fun game that showed a simulation of how a population of peppered moths in England changed their colors in response to the thick smoke caused by the Industrial Revolution. Being a predator gave a new insight on what survival can look like.

Mrs. Hodge



News from 4th & 5th Grade

Coming back to school this January has been great for everyone. We got right back to learning in our usual environment albeit with a few adjustments. The month has flown by though and, in looking back, it was packed with topics of discovery.

Division was the name of the game for fourth grade math while fifth graders focused on algebraic expressions, using the order of operations, and extending tables via rules. It has been a challenge at times, but "By George, I think they've got it."

We started and completed reading an entire book called Snow Treasure, by Marie McSwigan. Students learned a bit about the German occupation of Norway during World War II. They also practiced narrative writing too. Everyone had the opportunity to write a fictitious story or personal narrative. We shared them with a partner, revised, edited and read them aloud. They were all so different.

Our Science focus has been on the relationship between Earth and the Sun, Earth and the Moon, and the greater Solar System. Students researched about a moon from a different planet and are now looking at each planet in turn. A project, of some sort, will soon be assigned--Be on the look out.

Finally, in Social Studies--NH History, we are learning about many aspects of Colonial life in NH. Students researched different trades of the time such as weavers, coopers, gunsmiths, blacksmiths, and tanners. They have learned how typical colonial towns were set up, the role of church in everyday life, homes, family life, education, and more. The also had to try their hand at sewing something like a sampler. It was certainly a learning experience in terms of patience and appreciation for the ways we do things now.

Ms. Wonkka



News from Junior High ELA & SS

January has been a busy month for our grades six through eight students. All students have recently finished novels and will be reading Scholastic Scope magazine for the next few weeks. The Scope magazine has several nonfiction articles; which is a different genre than both novels were. This will give us experience reading about real-world situations and people. The first story we are reading is about Malala Yousafzai and her struggle to stand up for girls' education. Malala was the youngest person in history to win the Nobel Peace Prize in 2014.

Social Studies classes have been busy working on projects for their area of study. Students in grade six researched King Hammurabi and his codes. They also finished and presented slide shows about ancient Mesopotamia. Grade seven students will be finishing their Canada unit this week. The last project they are finishing up will be presenting research about Canadian cities. Grade eight students recently created a "Jeopardy"-type quiz game using the research from their colonies projects.

All in all, the students have been busy and productive. Remote learners have joined our classes via Zoom. We continue to take breaks outside and get some fresh air.

Mrs. Stebbins



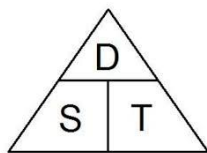
Don't forget to bring a few extra masks each day!

News from Junior High Science & Math

Grade 8 Science: Have you ever seen how water erodes a river bank? Have you seen sand erode away because of the wind? Weathering, erosion and deposition are terms the grade 8 students are learning about rocks. The rock cycle is a cycle which shows how rocks become smaller and larger. Do you know the three types of rocks? If you guessed igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic you are correct.

Before we learned about rocks and the rock cycle, students reviewed landforms and the importance of latitude and longitude.

Grade 6/7 Science: The students in 6th and 7th grade are learning about motion. Do you know the difference between velocity and speed? Speed involves a direction. How do we calculate speed? How do we calculate distance? How do we calculate time? Remember your speed triangle:



$$\text{Distance} = \text{Speed} \times \text{Time}$$

$$\text{Speed} = \text{Distance}/\text{Time} \quad \text{Time} = \text{Distance}/\text{Speed}$$

Students enjoyed doing the “Bubble Gum” Physics Lab. They calculated how fast they “chomp” their gum by using the speed formula.

Grade 6 Math: Students are learning about like terms. How do we combine terms? We look at them and decide if we add or subtract. $3a + 4b - 7a + 5b = ?$ The answer is $-4a + 9b!$

What is the answer to the following: What is $5a + 7$ if $a = 5$? The answer is 32. How? Substitute 5 for the “a” as follows: $5 \times 5 + 7 = 32$

Grade 7 Math: Students are learning how to do one and two equations with a variable. How do we get the variable by itself? Follow your steps.

$$7a + 3 = 17$$

Subtract 3 from both sides. $7a = 14$

Divide both sides by 7. $a = 2$.

Well done.

Grade 8 Math: Students are trying to solve equations with a variable on both sides of the equation.

What is the answer to the following problem?

$$3a - 14 = 2a + 11$$

The solution:

Subtract $2a$ from both sides $a - 14 = 11$

Then add 14 to both sides. $a = 25$

As you can see, math students are learning how to do algebra! Yes! I am so proud of all my students. They are showing good math sense and are great problem solvers. Keep up the great work everyone!

Mr. Kennedy



News from Title I

We recently held data meetings to analyze the results of the winter benchmark assessments that all students in grades K-8 participated in. In looking over that data, we determined which students could use a reading and/or math intervention to provide extra help and support. Mrs. Norma Gray, our recently-hired part-time Title I teacher is working closely with teachers to set up a schedule and work on these interventions with students.

News from the Resource Room

Top Ten Homework Tips for Parents:

1. **Know the teachers** — and what they're looking for.
2. **Set up a homework-friendly area.**
3. **Schedule a regular study time.** Some kids work best in the afternoon, following a snack and play period; others may prefer to wait until after dinner.
4. **Help them make a plan.** Create a work schedule for the night if necessary — and take time for a 15-minute break every hour, if possible.
5. **Keep distractions to a minimum.** This means no TV, loud music, or phone calls.
6. **Make sure kids do their own work.** It's a kid's job to do the learning.
7. **Be a motivator and monitor.** Give encouragement, check completed homework, and make yourself available for questions and concerns.
8. **Set a good example.** Do your kids ever see you diligently balancing your budget or reading a book?

Kids are more likely to follow their parents' examples than their advice.

9. **Praise their work and efforts.** Post an aced test or art project on the refrigerator. Mention academic achievements to relatives.

10. **If there are continuing problems with homework, get help.** Talk about it with your child's teacher.

Source: <https://kidshealth.org/en/parents/homework.html>

Miss Miller

News from the Media Center

Wow! January has flown by! It is wonderful having the students in full time. They are busy keyboarding, coding, computing and getting library books (my classes). While I enjoy the snow and its beauty, spring will be here before you know it!

Mrs. Placey

News from the SAP

The fourth and fifth graders are finishing up with Level 1 of the Life Skills program. Seventh graders continue to work on Social Skills, and eighth graders are delving into Media Powered Youth, learning a great deal about advertisements and how they have an impact on us and what we purchase. Additionally, I meet with students for scheduled individual times and/or as needed.

Mrs. Crossley

